

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. The only claim amendment is to claim 32 so as to correct an issue raised with respect to antecedent basis. Claims 4 – 6, 11, 17 – 19, 21 and 31 have been cancelled. Claims 1 – 3, 7 – 10, 12 – 16, 20, 22 – 30, and 32 - 35 are currently pending.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 4 – 6, 11, 17 – 19, 21, and 31 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, paragraph two. Each of these claims has now been cancelled.

Claims 32 and 33 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, paragraph two for lacking sufficient antecedent basis for the claimed “indication of currently visible groups.” Claim 32 now recites “an indication of currently visible groups,” thereby resolving the present issue raised with respect to antecedent basis. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the present rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 – 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Weiner, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,041,331 (“Weiner”). Applicants respectfully traverse the present rejections.

Claim 1 - 12

Claims 1 – 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Weiner. Independent claim 1 requires an item presentation area, a set of user-selectable filters and the table of contents area, all of which are visible to a user at the same time on the display screen. More specifically, a display screen is divided into three presentation area, including a

“first presentation area,” a “second presentation area,” and a “third presentation area.” The “first presentation area” presents “one or more group titles” and “items in accordance with said groups to the user.” The “second presentation area” presents “a listing of said one or more group titles” and an indication of “which of said groups contain one or more items currently visible to the user in said first presentation area.” Finally, the “third presentation area” includes a set of user selectable filters. **Weiner does not teach a display with the claimed first and second presentation areas.**

To teach the claimed interface, the Office Action relies on Weiner’s FIGS. 4A – 4C, and related text. Figure 4C is reproduced below.

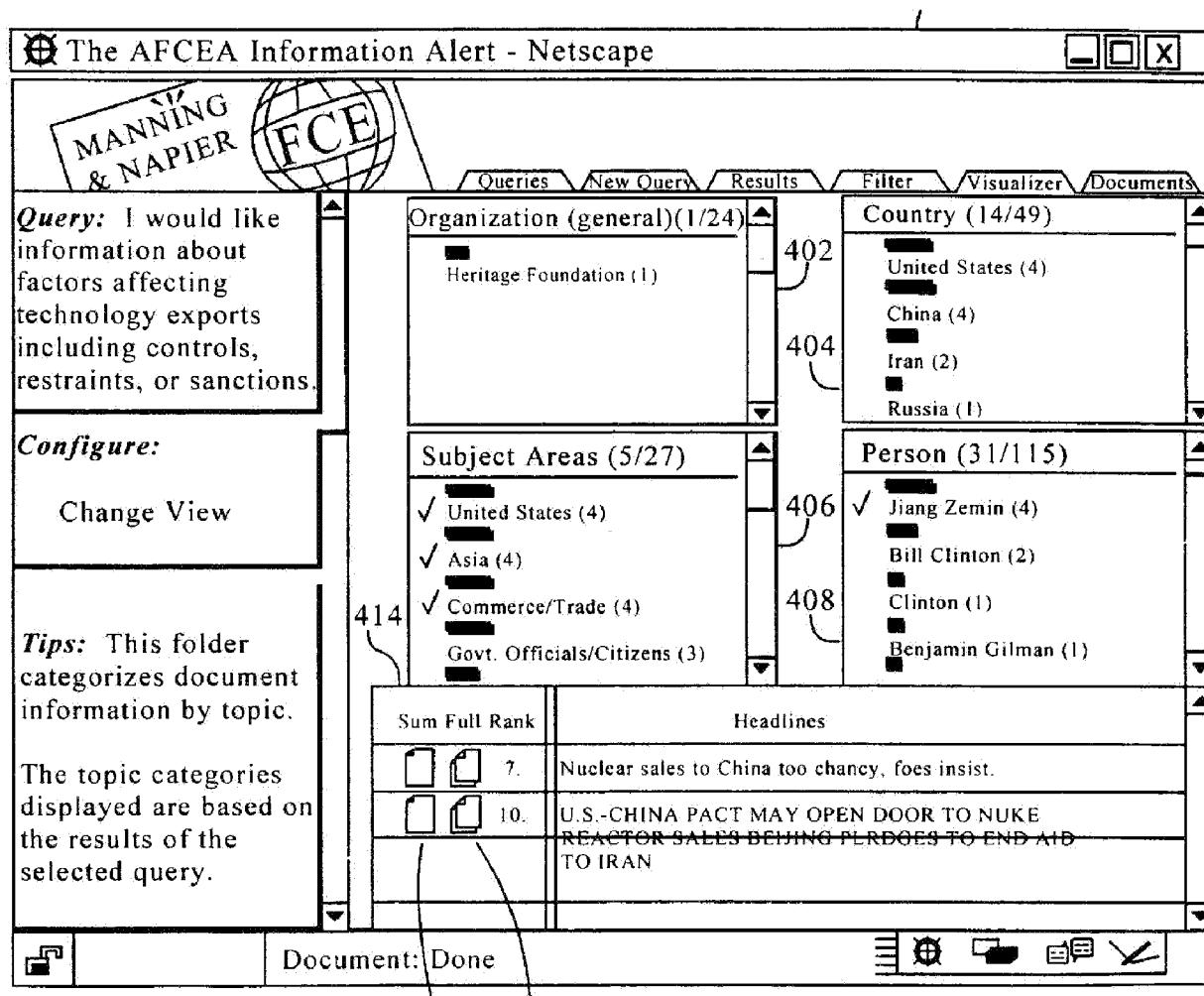


Figure 4C illustrates an interface for displaying query results in which categories of keywords are presented in panes 402 – 408. Pane 414 presents the headline from selected articles. Panes 406 and 408 have certain key words “checked” to indicate further filtering of the selected articles. Weiner, col. 15, ll. 15 – 36. Similar interfaces are presented in Figures 4A and 4B. The Office Action relies on panes 402 – 408 to teach the claimed “third presentation area” and its set of user selectable filters. *See* Office Action at page 3.

Turning first to the claimed “first presentation area,” Weiner fails to teach a presentation area presenting “one or more group titles” and a “set of items in accordance with said groups to the user.” The only “set of items” that presented by Figures 4A-4C are shown in the headline pane 414. Headline pane 414, however, cannot be the claimed “first presentation area” because it does not present the items in groups with group titles. Likewise, panes 402 – 408 cannot be the claimed “first presentation area” because these panes display keywords used for filtering the items, not the underlying items divided into groups. Therefore, Weiner fails to teach the claimed “first presentation area.”

Weiner also fails to teach the claimed “second presentation area,” which requires “a listing of said one or more group titles” and an indication of “which of said groups contain one or more items currently visible to the user in said first presentation area.” As discussed, panes 402 – 408 contain keyword filters, in which selected filters are indicated with a checkmark. These panes, however, do not list “one or more group titles” or indicate which groups are visible to the user. Indeed, the present rejection relies on the content of panes 402 – 408 to teach the claimed filters of the third presentation area, as distinguished from the claimed groups titles shown by the second presentation area. *See* Office Action at page 3. Therefore, Weiner fails to teach the claimed “second presentation area” as well. Because Weiner does not

teach each and every aspect of claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Applicants also submit that dependent claims 1 – 3, 7 – 10, and 12 – 14, which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 15 - 35

Claims 15 – 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as anticipated by Weiner. Independent claims 15 and 28 include claim language similar to claim 1, and, thus, claims 15 and 28 are likewise patentable over the prior art for all the reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

Moreover, claim 15 includes an additional limitation that is not present in Weiner. Claim 15 requires “a filter selection area which displays at least a portion of a set of user-selectable filters, wherein said set of user selectable filters includes one or more primary filters, wherein said filter selection area displays at least a portion of a set of secondary filters incident to user selection of one of said one or more primary filters.” Weiner fails to teach secondary filters that are displayed “incident to user selection of one of said one or more primary filters.” Rather, Weiner’s filters are all primary filters, not filters displayed incident to selection of a primary filter. Because the prior art fails to teach each and every element of the independent claims, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 15 and 28 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants also submit that dependent claims 16, 20, and 22 – 27, which depend from claim 15, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 15. Applicants also submit that dependent claims 29-30, and 32 - 35, which depend from claim 28, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 28.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, claims 1 – 3, 7 – 10, 12 – 16, 20, 22 – 30, and 32 – 35 are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain which would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned prior to issuing a subsequent action. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,

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